

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/699,213	PLOTZ, KURT	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Amy B. Vanatta	3765	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to filing of 10/31/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Touslee on March 2, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 4, lines 1-2, "one or more of claims 1 to 3" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 6, lines 1-2, "one of more of claims 1 to 3" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 8, lines 1-2, "at least one of claims 1 to 7" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 9, lines 1-2, "at least one of claims 1 to 8" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 10, lines 1-2, "at least one of claims 1 to 9" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 12, lines 1-2, "at least one of claims 1 to 11" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 13, lines 1-2, "at least one of claims 1 to 12" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

In claim 15, lines 1-2, "at least one of claims 1 to 14" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

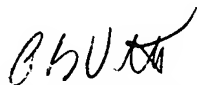
In claim 17, line 2, "one or more of claims 1 to 16" has been changed to -- claim 1 --.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon are allowable since the prior art of record do not disclose a process for producing a cover for an airbag including the steps of producing a polyester web, needling the web, consolidating and shrinking the web using an embossing calender, making a cover out of the consolidated and shrunk web, and providing the cover with a predetermined breaking site. Product by process claim 17 is allowable since the prior art does not disclose a side airbag cover which has the structure and properties of the claimed airbag cover made by the process of claim 1, including a consolidated and shrunk polyester web structure with an embossed surface and a predetermined breaking site. That is, the prior art do not disclose a side airbag cover which has the properties and structure, as set forth in the specification, which results from the claimed manufacturing process. The specification discloses that such a process results in an airbag cover having a consolidated and shrunk embossed surface which is disclosed as advantageous since covers having smooth surfaces tend to crease and rustle on bending. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amy B. Vanatta whose telephone number is 571-272-4995. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Calvert can be reached on 571-272-4983. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Amy B Vanatta
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3765